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Had No Idea CIA Involved, Cornell Says

Cornell University has never knowingly received financial support from the Central Intelligence Agency, directly or indirectly, according to Steven Muller, vice president for public affairs.

A search of foundation support to the university over the last 10 years, however, indicate that eight contributing organizations do appear on the list of those reported in the press to have had CIA support, he disclosed Thursday.

Muller asserted that the university "never sought nor received direct support from the CIA, nor has the university knowingly received support from indirect sources. The university can say with full confidence that at no time has there been any interference with the integrity or legitimacy of our research or teaching operations."

During the past decade, Muller said, Cornell has received funds ranging from a high of \$436,000 for a series of Marshall Foundation projects to a low of two unsolicited gifts of \$25. The first of these small gifts was from the American Friends of the Middle East in memory of Donald C. Kerr, who had been the university's counselor of foreign students. The other was from the Hobby Foundation to the Cornell Medical College in memory of Charles T. Hicks, former chairman of the board of the Bowater Paper Co.

These eight contributing organizations, Muller said, "are legitimate foundations with substantial sources of funds other than money reportedly received from the Central Intelligence Agency, and there is no evidence